

KINGDOM

“Solomon’s Wisdom...Ecclesiastes”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- The story of David and Bathsheba
- The story of Nathan rebuking David and David’s Repentance Psalm 32
- The story of Solomon’s Wisdom in Ecclesiastes
- The story of Job

Series Theme Verse: “God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’ – Acts 13:22

Lesson Objective: For students to understand the story of Solomon’s wisdom and Ecclesiastes.

Lesson Passage: 2 Chronicles 1:1, 7-13; Ecclesiastes 1:1-11, 12:13-14

Materials Needed: Bibles, white board, Series Theme Verse written by words on postcards

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points: 2 Chronicles 1:1

- Who is the king of Israel as our story begins today? (Solomon)
- Who is Solomon? (Son of King David)
- Why do you think Solomon is now king of Israel? (King David ruled for 40 years and has now passed away, his son is now the king)
- Was Solomon a powerful king? (Yes, because God was with him)

Talking Points: 2 Chronicles 1:7-13

- Who came to speak to Solomon? (God)
- What did God say to Solomon? (Ask for whatever you want me to give you)
- If God told you to ask God for anything, what would you ask for? (Various answers are possible)
- Before Solomon asked God for what he wanted, what did Solomon do? (Outlined his reason for asking for what he was asking for...Solomon glorified God for God’s kindness and making Solomon king over all the people after his father’s death)
- What did Solomon ask for? (Wisdom to rule and govern the people of God)
- How did God respond to Solomon’s request? (He agreed to give Solomon wisdom and knowledge to rule)

- Why did God agree to give wisdom to Solomon? (Because wisdom to rule was Solomon's heart's desire, and Solomon did not ask for a selfish thing like wealth or power, but for something to help him be more like God as a king)
- Did God agree to give Solomon anything else? (Yes, God said God would give Solomon great wealth and power like no king before)
- Why would God do this? (Because Solomon was not greedy when asking for wisdom from God, Solomon only asked for what was needed to be like God)
- Having left the place of worship, where did Solomon go? (To Jerusalem to rule Israel)

The Story Retold: Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; 12:13-14

- Have students look up Ecclesiastes 1 – Remind students that Ecclesiastes was written by King Solomon, well into his reign as king.
- Read through Ecclesiastes 1:1-11 and ask students what they hear in the passage?
- What is the tone of the passage?
- What words or phrases stick out from the passage?
- Does this sound like a book written by a man who asked God for wisdom?
- What is the point of life according to King Solomon the wise?
- Now turn to Ecclesiastes 12:13-14.
- Read the passage.
- Ask students to explain what Solomon is saying in their own words. (The point of life is fearing God and following God)
- Solomon was rich and powerful, he was able to try everything the world had to offer, but he realized that in the end, everyone dies and it does not matter how rich or how powerful you were. In the end, we are judged based on our relationship with God and how we lived that relationship out.

The Story and Me:

- Have the Series theme verse written by words on notecards.
- Give students the notecards (or hide them and let them find them) and have them put the verse together using the cards.
- Explain to students that our Series Theme Verse reminds us that the only thing worthwhile in life is being a person that chases after God. Solomon understood this, just as his dad, King David did.
- Have the students say the verse several times, helping them learn the verse